

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
VIRGINIAN-PILOT

M - 129,885
S - 184,960

JAN 30 1976

Mr. Bush's Task

George Bush was confirmed as director of the Central Intelligence Agency by the Senate Tuesday with 27 "nay" votes.

It's going to be that kind of a job.

When Mr. Bush gets to Langley, where the CIA has headquarters, he'll be met by a welcome wagon with cans of worms.

Not only the CIA, but the entire intelligence establishment of the United

States, should be trimmed and tidied up.

The nation spends \$10 billion a year on agencies in the intelligence trade. That is too much money; much of it is wasted. Apart from the abuses of the CIA and all the foolishness now notorious, it is obvious that any bureaucracy that has continued to expand for a generation out of the public view, without any effective checks and controls by Congress, is redundant and swollen.

The fact that the staff of the House Select Committee on Intelligence is recommending the abolition of the Defense Intelligence Agency and the distribution of its functions substantiates that. (And the fact that the recommendation leaked to the newspapers serves to corroborate the valedictory warning of William Colby, the CIA's departing director, that Congress is a sieve.)

The Congressional investigations are a good starting point in the intelligence shakeup. Mr. Bush may be the man to begin the overhaul. But it is likely someone else will finish the job. Remnants of the mess will be awaiting Mr. Ford or his successor next year.